3810-FF

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

32 CFR Part 706

Certifications and Exemptions Under the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DoD.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Navy (DoN) is amending its certifications and exemptions under the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972 (72 COLREGS), to reflect that the Deputy Assistant Judge Advocate General (DAJAG) (Admiralty and Maritime Law) has determined that USS CORONADO (LCS 4) is a vessel of the Navy which, due to its special construction and purpose, cannot fully comply with certain provisions of the 72 COLREGS without interfering with its special function as a naval ship. The intended effect of

this rule is to warn mariners in waters where 72 COLREGS apply.

DATES: This rule is effective [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] and is applicable beginning December 4, 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant Jocelyn Loftus-Williams, JAGC, U.S. Navy, Admiralty Attorney, (Admiralty and Maritime Law), Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of the Navy, 1322 Patterson Ave., SE, Suite 3000, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066, telephone number: 202-685-5040.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the authority granted in 33 U.S.C. 1605, the DoN amends 32 CFR Part 706.

This amendment provides notice that the DAJAG (Admiralty and Maritime Law), under authority delegated by the Secretary of the Navy, has certified that USS CORONADO (LCS 4) is a vessel of the Navy which, due to its special construction and purpose, cannot fully comply with the following specific provisions of 72 COLREGS without interfering with its special function as a naval ship: Annex I paragraph 2 (a)(i), pertaining to the location of the forward masthead light at a height not less than 12 meters

above the hull; Annex I, paragraph 3(a), pertaining to the location of the forward masthead light in the forward quarter of the ship, and the horizontal distance between the forward and after masthead lights; Annex I, paragraph 2(f)(i), pertaining to the placement of the masthead light or lights above and clear of all other lights and obstructions; Annex I, paragraph 3(c), pertaining to the task light's horizontal distance from the fore and aft centerline of the vessel in the athwartship direction; and Rule 21(a), pertaining to the arc of visibility of the aft masthead light. The DAJAG (Admiralty and Maritime Law) has also certified that the lights involved are located in closest possible compliance with the applicable 72 COLREGS requirements.

Moreover, it has been determined, in accordance with 32 CFR Parts 296 and 701, that publication of this amendment for public comment prior to adoption is impracticable, unnecessary, and contrary to public interest since it is based on technical findings that the placement of lights on this vessel in a manner differently from that prescribed herein will adversely affect the vessel's ability to perform its military functions.

List of Subjects in 32 CFR Part 706

Marine safety, Navigation (water), and Vessels.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, the DoN amends part 706 of title 32 of the Code of Federal Regulations as follows:

PART 706--CERTIFICATIONS AND EXEMPTIONS UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS FOR PREVENTING COLLISIONS AT SEA, 1972

1. The authority citation for part 706 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1605.

- 2. Section 706.2 is amended as follows:
- A. In Table One by adding, in alpha numerical order by vessel number, an entry for USS CORONADO (LCS 4);
- B. In Table Four, Paragraph 15 by adding, in alpha numerical order by vessel number, an entry for USS CORONADO (LCS 4);

- C. In Table Four, Paragraph 16 by adding, in alpha numerical order by vessel number, an entry for USS CORONADO (LCS 4); and
- D. In Table Five by adding, in alpha numerical order by vessel number, an entry for USS CORONADO (LCS 4).

 The additions read as follows:

§ 706.2 Certifications of the Secretary of the Navy under Executive Order 11964 and 33 U.S.C. 1605.

* * * * *

Table One

| Vessel | Number | Distance in meters of forward masthead light below minimum required height. §2(a)(i) Annex I | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--|--|
| * * * * * USS CORONADO * * * * * | LCS 4 | 4.91 | |
| * * * * | | | |

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| Table Four | | | | |
|--------------|--------|---|--|--|
| * * * * * | | | | |
| 15. * * * | | | | |
| Vessel | Number | Horizontal distance from the fore and aft centerline of the Vessel in the athwartship direction | | |
| * * * * | | | | |
| USS CORONADO | LCS 4 | 1.31 meters | | |
| * * * * * | | | | |
| * * * * * | | | | |
| 16. * * * | | | | |
| Vessel | Number | Obstruction angle relative ship's headings | | |
| * * * * | | | | |
| USS CORONADO | LCS 4 | 71° thru 73° | | |
| | | 76° thru 78° | | |
| | | 287° thru 289° | | |

* * * * *

Table Five

| | | Masthead | Forward | After mast- | Percentage |
|--------------|-------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------|
| | | lights not | masthead light | head light | horizontal |
| | | over all other | not in forward | less than 1/2 | separation |
| Vessel | No. | lights and | quarter of | ship's length | attained |
| | | obstructions. | ship. annex I, | aft of forward | |
| | | annex I, | sec. 3(a) | masthead | |
| | | sec. 2(f) | | light. annex | |
| | | | | I, sec. 3(a) | |
| ***** | | | | | |
| USS CORONADO | LCS 4 | | X | X | 17.9 |

APPROVED: December 4, 2012

A. B. FISCHER
Captain, JAGC, U.S. Navy
Deputy Assistant Judge Advocate
General (Admiralty and Maritime Law)

Dated: December 5, 2012

C. K. CHIAPPETTA
Lieutenant Commander
Office of the Judge Advocate General
U.S. Navy
Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2012-30140 Filed 12/12/2012 at 8:45 am; Publication Date: 12/13/2012]